

Capsule Summary  
SM-459  
Henry Boothe Farmhouse  
Drayden  
Private

Circa 1870; 1920

The Henry Boothe Farmhouse is significant as an example of a modest farmhouse that has been enlarged and modernized over the years. Although the exterior siding and windows have been replaced, the oldest section of the house has a hall/parlor plan and an enclosed stair that remains unchanged. The hilly setting of the farmhouse, surrounded by grazing land and milk cows, is not a typical St. Mary's County scene.

The Boothe property is part of a tract known as "Uplands," "Ragged Lane," or "Lot No. 3 Part Second." Henry Watts purchased 430 acres of this tract, formerly part of the James Hebb estate, in 1861. The property then passed from Watts to J. Parran Crane and to Robert Owens. In 1910, Joseph Boothe and Elizabeth Boothe, parents of the current owners, purchased 76 acres of the tract from Robert Owens for \$1500.

During the Boothe family ownership, the house has been enlarged by a series of two additions. The larger of these was constructed around 1920 by Lenny and Eugene Cecil. Henry and Elizabeth Boothe raised eleven children in the six-room house. Most of the outbuildings on the property date to the Boothe family occupation of the farm. Many of these were built for the storage of tobacco or the housing of milk cows. Milk cows have been raised on the farm since the 1940s.

SM-459, Henry Boothe Farmhouse  
St. Mary's County  
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Plan Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period: Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870 - 1930.

Historic Period Theme: Architecture

Resource Type

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function and Use: Residence

Known Design Source: None

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. **SM 459**

Magi No.

DOE   yes   no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Henry Boothe Farmhouse

**2. Location**

street & number Route 244, North side    not for publication

city, town Drayden    vicinity of    congressional district 5

state Maryland county St. Mary's

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<u>X</u> occupied	<u>X</u> agriculture <u>  </u> museum
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial <u>  </u> park
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational <u>X</u> private residence
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> entertainment <u>  </u> religious
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>X</u> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government <u>  </u> scientific
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial <u>  </u> transportation
	<u>X</u> not applicable	<u>  </u> no	<u>  </u> military <u>  </u> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Henry F. Boothe and Regina C. Boothe

street & number    telephone no.: (301) 994 1407

city, town Drayden state and zip code Maryland 20630

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse    liber CBG 25

street & number       folio 280

city, town Leonardtown state Maryland

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title   

date       federal    state    county    local   

pository for survey records

city, town    state

## 7. Description

Survey No. **SM 459**

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved      date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing Resource Count: 16

The Henry Boothe Farmhouse is located at the end of a picturesque, curving, unpaved drive on the north side of Route 244 near Drayden in St. Mary's County, Maryland. The house is perched on a knoll and is surrounded by fenced grazing land. A series of fifteen outbuildings are located to the north of the house. Most of these structures are agricultural outbuildings used in conjunction with the Boothe dairy farm. The house faces east with the principal gable oriented on a north/south axis.

The Boothe house was built in a series of stages. The oldest of these is the smallest section of the house located at the west end of the complex. It appear to date to the 1860s or 1870s. The larger, east wing of the house was built in the 1920s for Joseph and Elizabeth Boothe by Lenny and Eugene Cecil. The most recent addition to the house is a shed roof structure located on the north side of the building which dates to around 1960.

The foundation of the Boothe Farmhouse is not visible. According to the current owner, it consists of brick and stone piers. Originally sheathed with weatherboard siding, the exterior was recently sheathed with vinyl siding. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and corrugated metal.

The east (main) elevation consists of a modern door as the most southern bay which is flanked to the north by two one-over-one sash windows. A porch extends across the full width of this elevation and wraps around to the south. The shed roof porch is roofed with corrugated metal and supported by square posts. The second floor is pierced by three one-over-one sash windows. An interior brick chimney pierces the roof ridgeline at the north end of the house.

The south elevation of the main block gable end is pierced by two one-over-one sash windows on both the first and second floors. The shed roof porch that wraps around from the east elevation extends across the entire first floor of the south elevation. The west end of the porch is enclosed and pierced on the east by a three-light-over-three panel door, on the south by a one-over-one sash window, and on the west by a one-over-one sash window. The west end of the house, which is the oldest section, is pierced by a modern door and two one-over-one sash windows. The second floor is pierced by three one-over-one sash windows.

The west elevation of the two-story, gable end section of the house is pierced by one one-over-one sash window on the first floor. An interior cinderblock chimney with a brick cap projects from the roof ridgeline at this west end of the structure. To the north, extends the 1960s shed roof addition. An exterior cinderblock chimney stands

## 8. Significance

Survey No. **SM 459**

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates Unknown Builder/Architect Unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Henry Boothe Farmhouse is significant as an example of a modest farmhouse that has been enlarged and modernized over the years. Although the exterior siding and windows have been replaced, the oldest section of the house has a hall/parlor plan and an enclosed stair that remains unchanged. The hilly setting of the farmhouse, surrounded by grazing land and milk cows, is not a typical St. Mary's County scene.

The Boothe property is part of a tract known as "Uplands," "Ragged Lane," or "Lot No. 3 Part Second." In 1861 Charlotte W. Compton and Wilson Compton of Charles County sold 430 acres of this property to Henry Watts for \$4000. Charlotte Compton had acquired the land from James Hebb's estate following his death.

In 1889, Watts sold the land to J. Parran Crane. Crane then sold a 100 acre portion of the parcel to Robert Owens in 1896. In 1910, Joseph Boothe and Elizabeth Boothe, parents of the current owners, purchased 76 acres of the property for \$1500.

During the Boothe family ownership, the house has been enlarged by a series of two additions. The larger of these was constructed around 1920 by Lenny and Eugene Cecil. Henry and Elizabeth Boothe raised eleven children in the six-room house.

Most of the outbuildings on the property date to the Boothe family occupation of the farm. Many of these were built for the storage of tobacco or the housing of milk cows. Milk cows have been raised on the farm since the 1940s.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. **SM 459**

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 3 acresQuadrangle name St Mary's CityQuadrangle scale 1:24 000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elizabeth Hughes, Historic Sites Surveyororganization St. Mary's County Planning & Zoningdate October 1994street & number 328 Washington Streettelephone (301) 475 4662city or town Leonardtownstate Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
514-7600

SM-459, Henry Boothe Farmhouse  
St. Mary's County  
7.1 Description

against the addition. Only one one-over-one sash window on the second floor is visible on the west side of the 1920s wing of the house.

The north elevation of the 1960s addition is pierced by three one-over-one sash windows. The second floor of the oldest section of the house is pierced by two one-over-one sash windows. The gable end of the 1920s addition is pierced by one one-over-one sash window on both the first and second floor.

The interior of the oldest section of the house consists of a hall/parlor plan. An enclosed stair provides access to the second floor which consists of two bedrooms. A vertical panel door opens to a closet located underneath the stair. The stair consists of circular sawn lumber and mature, machine cut nails. The 1920s addition consists of a side hall/single parlor plan with one room on the first and second floor.

Of the fifteen outbuildings that stand on the property, those located closest to the house consist of a concrete block garage and pump house, a metal refrigerator, a frame meathouse, and a modern storage shed. Two frame corn houses, two cow sheds, a granary, a storage shed, three tobacco barns, and a stripping shed are also located on the property. Most of these structures appear to date to the twentieth century.

SM-459, Henry Boothe Farmhouse  
St. Mary's County  
8.1 Significance

Chain of Title

TO: Henry F. Boothe and Regina C. Boothe

FROM: Elizabeth C. Boothe, widow.

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber CBG 25, folio 280.

DATE: July 15, 1950.

NOTES: Transfer of a tract known as "Uplands," "Ragged Lane," or "Lot No. 3 -- Part Second" originally described as 100 acres but in a recent survey shown to be 76 acres and the same as EBA 9/61 reserving the large front room on the first floor of the home for the sole and exclusive use of Elizabeth C. Boothe. Joseph Boothe died in 1949.

TO: Joseph Boothe and Elizabeth C. Boothe

FROM: Robert Owens and Blanche E. Owens

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber EBA 9, folio 61.

DATE: October 4, 1910.

NOTES: Transfer of "Uplands," "Ragged Lane," and "Lot No. 3 - Part Second" now 76 acres. Being the same as JJG 3/332. Price: \$1500

TO: Robert Owens

FROM: J. Parran Crane and Mollie D. Crane

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber JJG 3, folio 332.

DATE: January 20, 1896.

NOTES: Transfer of "Upland," "Ragged Lane," and "Lot No. 3 -- Part Second" being 100 acres more or less as per a resurvey by George B. Dent on January 4, 1896 of "Part Westbury Manor" and "Beans Addition." Being part of the same land allotted to Charlotte W. Compton in the division of real estate of James Hebb, deceased, under the commission of Circuit Court as surveyed by Benjamin Tippet in 1848. Price: \$250

TO: J. Parran Crane

FROM: Henry Watts

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber JFF 11, folio 119.

DATE: January 18, 1889.

NOTES: Transfer of Item 5 being the tract "on which I now reside" known as "Upland Ragged Lane" or "Lot No. 3, Part 2nd."

TO: Henry Watts

FROM: Wilson Compton and Charlotte W. Compton of Charles County

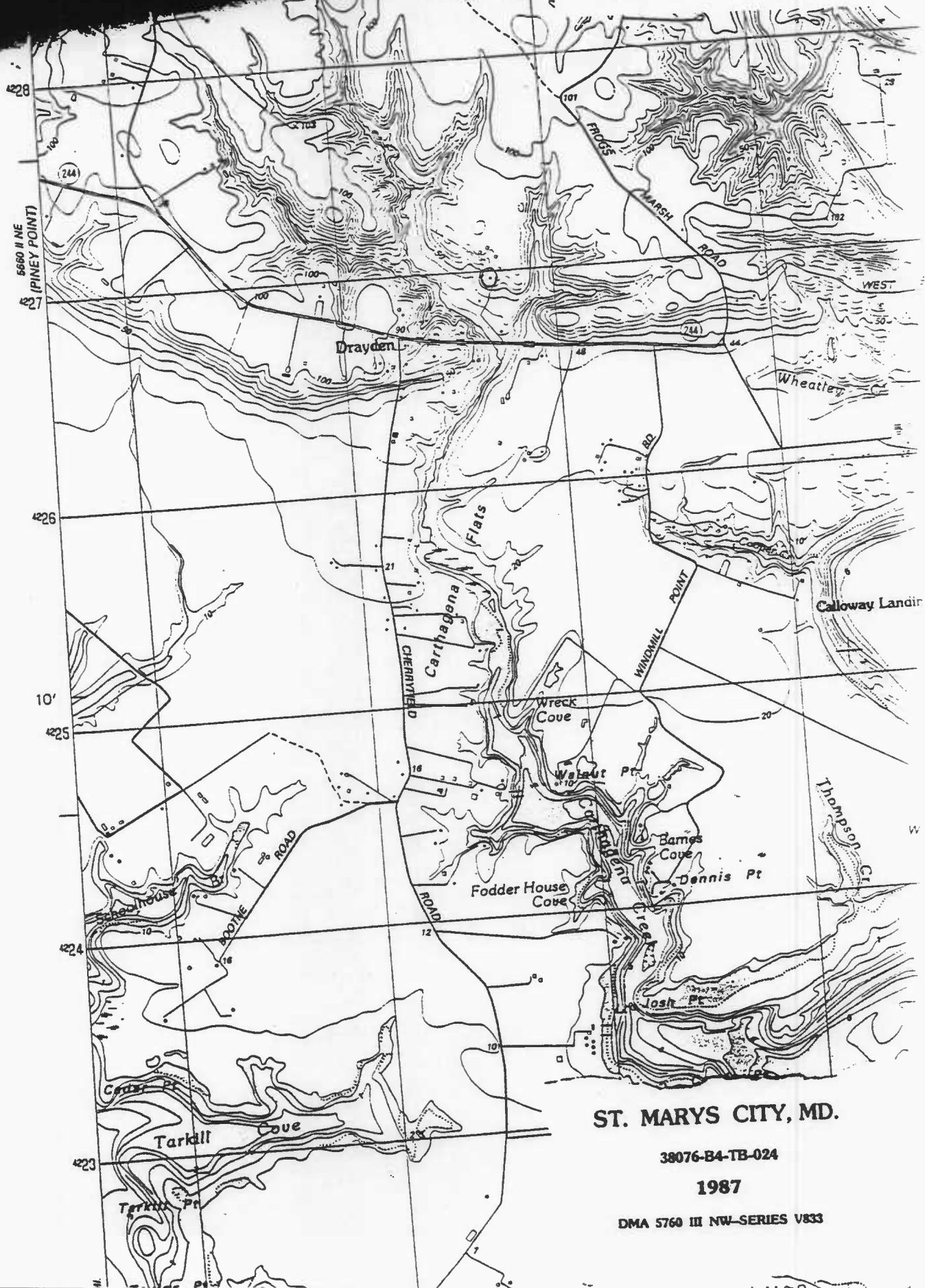
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JTB 3, folio 591.

DATE: June 15, 1861.

NOTES: Transfer of the same several tracts allotted to Charlotte V. Compton by commissioners on the real estate of James Hebb, deceased, and designated on a plat returned by the commissioners as Lot No. 3, Part 1st; Lot No. 3, Part 2nd, Lot No. 3, Part 3rd. Price: \$4000



SM-459  
Henry Boothe Farmhouse  
Drayden  
St. Mary's City Quad



ST. MARYS CITY, MD.

38076-B4-TB-024

1987

DMA 5760 III NW-SERIES V833



SM-45-1

Henry Boothe farmhouse

St. Mary's County, MD

E. Hughes

12/94

MD SHPD

SW elevation

1/5



SM-457

Henry Smith: Inn, mhouse

St. Mary's County MD

Er. Hughes

12/94

MD SPCA

NE elevation

4/5



EN-454

Henry Boothe Fairhouse

\* Mary's country HD

E. Hughes

12/24

ML SHP2

Heathouse with horses been out deep and in background

3/5





SM-459

Henry Boothe Farmhouse

St. Mary's County, MD

E. Hughes

12  
/94

MD SHPD

Granary with tobacco barn is being sold

4/5



SM-459

Henry Boothe Farnham

St. Mary's County, MD

E. Hughes

12/94

MD HPD

Barns used for storage.

3/2